

Message Text

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67

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-15

AID-20 COME-00 EB-11 FRB-02 TRSE-00 XMB-07 OPIC-12

CIEP-02 LAB-06 SIL-01 OMB-01 RSR-01 /152 W

----- 130946

R 191752C JUL 73

FM AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4611

INFO AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA

AMEMBASSY MANAGUA

AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR

AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SAN JOSE 2603

GUATEMALA ALSO -ROCAP

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ECON XK CS

SUBJECT: CACM -- GOCR TO SEND STRONG DELEGATION TO MANAGUA
MEETING

SUMMARY: GOCR DEL TO FORTHCOMING CACM TRIPARTITE MEETING
IN MANAGUA SEEMS TO HAVE BEEN CHOSEN WITH PARTICULAR VIEW
IN MIND OF (A) DEMONSTRATING COSTA RICA'S INTEREST IN
CACM AFTER LONG DOLDRUMS, AND (B) OVERCOMING INITIAL TENDENCY
OF MANY HERE TO VIEW REPLACEMENT OF MINISTER SANCHEZ
WITH GASTON KOGAN AS DOWNGRADING OF MARKET. APPOINTMENT
OF RODOLFO SOLANO ORFILA TO HIGH LEVEL COMMITTEE UNDER-
SCORES COSTA RICA'S CACM COMMITMENT.

1. JULY 18 PRESS GAVE PROMINENT COVERAGE TO GOCR

TO CACM TRIPARTITE MEETING IN MANAGUA NEXT WEEK. IN
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ADDITION TO NORMAL INCLUSION OF MINISTER ECONOMY, INDUSTRY AND COMMERCE (MEIC) KOGAN, FINANCE MINISTER ALPIZAR AND CENTRAL BANK MANAGER VOLIO, DELEGATION WILL INCLUDE JULIO UGARTE, MEIC ADVISER AND EXECUTIVE SECRETARY OF THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE (ALSO RECENT EMBASSY LEADER GRANTEE); RODOLFO SOLANO ORFILA, NEW APPOINTMENT TO HIGH-LEVEL CACM COMMITTEE; LUIS VILLANI, MEIC DIRECTOR OF INTEGRATION; AND OSCAR KIKUT OF CENTRAL BANK. PRIQTE SECTOR ADVISERS WILL BE THE PRESIDENTS (AND SOME OTHER MEMBERS) OF THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, CHAMBER OF INDUSTRIES, AND CHAMBER OF FOREIGN REPRESENTATIVES (CRECEX). AMONG LATTER, NEW PRESIDENT OF CHAMBER OF INDUSTRIES, RICHARD BECK, IS A PARTICULARLY ARTICULATE AND DYNAMIC SUPPORTER OF CWYM.

2. COMMENT: WE READ SELECTION BY THE GOCR OF SUCH AN EXCEPTIONALLY LARGE AND HIGH-POWERED DELEGATION AS A SPECIFIC EFFORT BY THE GOCR TO EMPHASIZE COSTA RICA'S COMMITMENT TO THE CACM. THIS WAS PROBABLY PROMPTED PRINCIPALLY BY A TENDENCY, PARTICULARLY AMONG BUSINESSMEN, TO VIEW THE RECENT REPLACEMENT OF MEIC MCUISTER SANCHEZ, A STRONG INTEGRATIONIST, BY GASTON KOGAN, AS EVIDENCE THAT THE GOCR ASSIGNED LITTLE IMPORTANCE TO THE CACM. MOREOVER, CACM MATTERS HERE HAVE DECIDEDLY BEEN ON THE BACK BURNER WITH THE PUBLIC, AS ATTENTION HAS FOCUSED ON SUCH THINGS AS INTERNAL POLITICS, INFLATION, AND VESCO.

3. DESIGNATION OF RODOLFO SOLANO TO REPLACE RIGOBERTO NAVARRO ON HIGH-LEVEL COMMISSION SHOULD PROVE TO BE A PARTICULARLY STRONG APPOINTMENT. SOLANO, AT THE TIME OF HIS APPOINTMENT, WAS IN BUSINESS, BUT EARLIER HAD BEEN PROMINENT IN POLITICS (AT ONE TIME HE WAS PRESIDENT OF NATIONAL ASSEMBLY AS PLN FACTIONLEADER). HE HAS OCCUPIED A NUMBER OF POSITIONS CONCERNING THE CACM INCLUDING A SENIOR SIECA STAFF POSITION, AND IS CONSIDERED TO BE A STRONG SUPPORTER OF THE INTEGRATION CONCEPT. WITH ANY SUPPORT AT ALL FROM THE GOCR, THE APPOINTMENT OF SOLANO SHOULD GIVE THE GOCR A STRONG VOICE IN CACM MATTERS.

4. WHILE YESTERDAY'S PRESS STATED THE DELEGATION WOULD SUPPORT TPR SAN JOSE PROTOCOL, THIS MORNING'S LA NACION CARRIED STATEMENTS FROM TWO PRIVATE SECTOR ADVISERS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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SUGGESTING DIFFERENCE ON THIS POINT. THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE PRESIDENT SAID HE OPPOSES EXTENSION, WHILE BECK NOTED THE QUESTION OF EXTENSION OF THE PROTOCOL MUST BE LINKED WITH THAT OF EXTENDING THE INDUSTRIAL CONTRACTS SYSTEM.

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